

## **Draft Green Spaces Acquisition Strategy**

### **Shortlist of designated green spaces recommended for further consideration for acquisition with this funding**

Duwamish Head Greenspace  
 East Duwamish Greenbelt  
 Harrison Ridge Greenbelt  
 Kiwanis Ravine Greenspace  
 Kubota Garden Natural Area  
 Leschi Natural Area  
 Maple School Natural Area  
 Me-Kwa-Mooks Natural Area  
 North Beach Natural Area  
 NE Queen Anne Greenbelt  
 St. Mark's Greenbelt  
 West Duwamish Greenbelt  
 Westlake Greenbelt

The following green spaces are not recommended for Green Space funding at this time because they are receiving funds through the Neighborhoods Parks Acquisition portion of the Levy:

- Longfellow Creek and Puget Creek Greenspaces are receiving funds through the Delridge Open Space Acquisitions project.
- Thornton Creek Natural Area is receiving funds through the North Open Space Acquisitions project.

**Levy Language, Attachment A: Allocations for Subcategories, Projects and Programs.** “Green Spaces: This subcategory includes acquisition of properties to fill gaps in the existing public ownership and preserve continuity within the City's designated Greenspaces (greenbelts and natural areas). Acquisitions will target critical properties in St. Marks, Longfellow Creek, Thornton Creek, Leschi, Me-Kwa-Mooks, Duwamish Head, West Duwamish, East Duwamish and other designated areas. It is anticipated that most of the acquisitions in this category would be eligible for matching grants from state and county sources thereby significantly increasing the amount to be spent on Green Spaces. Total Subcategory Allocation \$10,000,000”

**Purposes of green spaces designation per the City's 1993 adopted Greenspace Policy:** Preserve natural landscape and habitat; natural buffers between land uses; mitigate noise and air pollution; reduce need for constructed storm water systems; preserve natural drainage and thereby enhance stability of land.

### **Scope of Available & Suitable Greenspace Additions:**

- over 30 designated greenspaces
- 200-300 remaining parcels meriting acquisition
- likely value \$70 million+

**Recommended Priorities for Property Acquisition:** The Seattle Open Space Program (1989-1997) acquired many high-resource-value properties but left a significant number of inholdings and gaps; size and continuity are key to resource-value and prime habitat, suggesting importance of filling gaps and removing inholdings. Recommended priorities (not in priority order) are therefore:

- Best natural resource value
- Inholdings that interfere with public access & Parks management
- Gaps in existing Parks holdings
- Availability of funds other than Greenspaces subcategory

**Proposed Allocation** - \$6.0 million for top priority available properties

- \$2.0 million reserve for currently unavailable properties
- \$0.5 million reserve for transfers of jurisdiction (especially SDOT holdings)
- \$0.300 million reserve for voluntary conservation

(In addition, properties have been acquired in the Leschi Natural Area and West Duwamish Greenbelt.)